



**(U) SID Around the World: Washington, D.C.**

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(C//SI) Sometimes a field assignment does not require a major move. Having already had five overseas assignments, my wife and I just couldn't face packing up and moving yet again. So I found a "local" assignment in Arlington, VA. CSG Joint Staff is located in the Pentagon, providing SIGINT support to the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, the J-2 (Directorate for Intelligence), and the Joint Staff. CSG Joint Staff members find themselves in the middle of nearly every crisis situation that comes into the Pentagon because SIGINT usually provides the bulk of the information related to those events.

(U) The daily commute to the Pentagon, while longer than my commute to Fort Meade, is really not so difficult due to our shift schedule, and parking is no worse than what we have at NSA. Inside the building, however, is another story. The Pentagon is like a museum with a variety of displays throughout the building. Just inside the river entrance is an outstanding display on the life and career of President Eisenhower. Other displays include the career of General Omar Bradley, NATO, ANZUS, the USO, and D-Day. There is also a small chapel with a memorial to the Pentagon victims of September 11.

(U) What's so exciting about being here? Well, we often see issues we've worked on being discussed later on TV by the Secretary of Defense. And like Forrest Gump, I occasionally just happen to show up in areas where big-name people are passing by, such as Gen. Tommy Franks and (gasp!) Brit Hume. But the most exciting part of the job is working under a tight deadline to provide intelligence that is needed "right now or sooner" by primary customers who will put it to use. This sense of urgency, coupled with the face-to-face contact with our customers, makes for a true feeling of job satisfaction.

(U//FOUO) If you are thinking of applying for a field position, see the [Extended Enterprise Vacancy Announcements](#).



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